

## PERSONAL INCOME TAX WAGES REPORTED ON THE QUARTERLY WAGE AND WITHHOLDING REPORT (DE 6)

The purpose of this information sheet is to explain the requirement to report California personal income tax (PIT) wages in Item H on the Quarterly Wage and Withholding Report (DE 6).

It may be helpful to keep in mind the purpose for the wage items required on the DE 6. The "Total Subject Wages" in Item G on the DE 6 are wages subject to unemployment insurance (UI), employment training tax (ETT), and/or state disability insurance (SDI). The "Total Subject Wages" are used to determine UI and SDI benefits. The "PIT Wages" in Item H on the DE 6 are used by the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) to determine the individual's income and should agree with amounts in Box 17 ("State Wages, Tips, etc.") on the Federal Form W-2. The "PIT Withheld" in Item I on the DE 6 represents the amount of PIT withheld from the individual's wages. The FTB will utilize the "PIT Wages" and "PIT Withheld" information to verify an individual's wages and withholding, since the employer is no longer required to furnish a copy of the employee's Federal Form W-2 to the Employment Development Department.

### What Are "PIT Wages"?

The "PIT Wages" in Item H on the DE 6 are the wages subject to California personal income tax which must be reported as income on an individual's California income tax return. **Most payments for employee services are reportable on the DE 6 as PIT wages.**

The PIT wages may not be subject to UI, ETT, SDI, or California PIT withholding in every situation. For example, wages for agricultural and domestic services are subject to UI, SDI, ETT, and reportable as PIT wages, but are excluded from PIT withholding.

**However, all wages subject to PIT withholding are reportable as PIT wages except for pension, annuity, and other deferred income distributions reported on Federal Form 1099R. Please refer to the attached table, which lists examples of the most common reporting differences between "Total Subject Wages," "PIT Wages," and "PIT Withheld" on the DE 6.** In addition, for domestic services, please refer to

the Information Sheet (DE 231PH) on Personal Income Tax Wages Reported on the Quarterly Report of Wages and Withholdings for Employers of Household Workers (DE 3B HW).

### What Are Wages?

"Wages" are payments made to an employee for personal services and may be paid by cash, check, or the reasonable cash value of remuneration paid to an employee in any medium other than cash (for example, lodging and meals). Wages in any form other than cash are measured by the fair market value of the goods given as compensation for the employee's services.

The definition of wages includes hourly wages, salaries, commissions, bonuses, fees, piece rates, incentive payments, and certain fringe benefits. Cash tips are also considered wages under certain conditions even if tips are paid by the customer and not the employer. For reporting purposes, wages are taxable when paid, made available to the employee, or at the time the employee receives remuneration other than cash.

For a further explanation of "Wages," "Total Subject Wages," and wages subject to California PIT withholding, please refer to the Information Sheet: Wages (DE 231A), or contact the nearest Employment Tax Office, which is listed on page 1 of the California Employer's Guide (DE 44). You may also call us toll-free at 1-888-745-3886.

### Further Assistance

For a more extensive definition of PIT wages, the following are recommended:

1. Refer to the FTB's Personal Income Tax Booklet for California Resident Forms and Instructions, "Instructions for Schedule CA (540), Line 7 - Wages, Salaries, Tips, etc." These instructions state that, in general, wages for federal and California income taxes are the same except for several items (which are described in detail).

2. If more information is required regarding the definition of wages by the federal income tax law (Internal Revenue Code), please review the following publications:

- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 1040 Booklet and Instructions for Line 7 - Wages, Salaries, Tips, etc.
- The IRS Publication 17, Tax Guide for Individuals, Chapter 6, "Wages, Salaries, and Other Earnings," and Chapter 7, "Tip Income."
- Sections listed in the index of the Internal Revenue Code under "Compensation."

If you are still unclear on what should be considered reportable as California PIT wages, please contact the FTB at their toll-free number 1-800-852-5711 (bilingual assistance available). You may also order FTB forms by telephoning 1-800-338-0505. Select and follow the recorded instructions for personal income tax forms. If you have access to the Internet, you may download, view, and print California income tax forms by addressing FTB at <http://www.ftb.ca.gov>.

The federal (IRS) toll-free number for assistance and ordering forms is 1-800-829-1040.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary services and assistance available to persons with disabilities.
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## ATTACHMENT

### REPORTING OF COMMON TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE PAYMENTS

The table below lists examples of the most common reporting differences between “Total Subject Wages” and “PIT Wages” on the Quarterly Wage and Withholding Report (DE 6). As shown in the grid below, some wage items are considered “PIT Wages” and reported in Item H on the DE 6, even though the wages are not subject to personal income tax (PIT) withholding. The table is based on the “Types of Employment” and “Types of Payments” tables in the California Employer’s Guide (DE 44). Please refer to the DE 44 for further explanations on types of employment and wage payments.

<b>TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE PAYMENTS</b>	<b>“TOTAL SUBJECT WAGES”</b> Reportable in Item G on the DE 6	<b>“PIT WAGES”</b> Reportable in Item H on the DE 6
<b>Agricultural Labor</b> Refer to federal Circular A.	YES	YES, but not subject to PIT withholding.
<b>Deceased Employee Wages</b> Wages paid to beneficiary or estate after the date of the worker’s death.	YES (Unless paid after the calendar year in which the employee died.)	NO
<b>Family Employees</b> Minor son or daughter under 18 employed by parent (or by partnership consisting of parents); wife employed by husband or husband employed by wife; and parent employed by son or daughter.	NO	YES
<b>Fishing and Related Activities</b> Refer to Information Sheet: Commercial Fishing (DE 231CF).	YES	YES, but not subject to PIT withholding.
<b>Homeworkers (Industrial)</b> Statutory employees Refer to Information Sheet: Statutory Employees (DE 231SE).	YES	YES, but not subject to PIT withholding.
<b>Household Employment (Domestic)</b> In private homes, local college clubs, fraternities, and sororities. Refer to Information Sheet: Household Employment (DE 231L), and/or Household Employers Guide (DE 8829).	YES (Reportable for SDI purposes if \$750 or more is paid in cash, and for UI purposes if \$1,000 or more is paid in cash in any calendar quarter.)	YES, but not subject to PIT withholding.
<b>Lodging and Meals</b>	YES	YES (Unless furnished for the employer’s convenience and on employer’s premises.)
<b>Newspaper</b> Newspaper carriers under 18 years old delivering to consumers.	NO (Unless occupation is regular full-time work.)	NO (unless occupation is regular full-time work.)
<b>Newspaper</b> Newspaper and magazine vendors buying at fixed prices and retaining excess from sales to consumers.	NO	NO

(Table continued)

## REPORTING OF COMMON TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE PAYMENTS (cont.)

(Table continued)

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### REPORTING OF COMMON TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE PAYMENTS (cont.)

TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE PAYMENTS	"TOTAL SUBJECT WAGES" Reportable in Item G on the DE 6	"PIT WAGES" Reportable in Item H on the DE 6
<b>Salespersons:</b> Refer to Information Sheet: Salespersons (DE 231N). A. Real estate salespersons.  B. Direct sales salespersons.  C. Salespersons who are statutory employees. Refer to Information Sheet: Statutory Employees (DE 231SE).	YES (Unless certain conditions are met.)  YES (Unless certain conditions are met.)  YES	YES (However, not subject to PIT withholding if certain conditions are met.)  YES (However, not subject to PIT withholding if certain conditions are met.)  YES, but not subject to PIT withholding.
<b>Sickness or Injury Payments under:</b> A. Worker's Compensation law.  B. Employer plans and contracts of insurance.	NO  YES (However, not reportable after the end of six calendar months following the calendar month when the employee last worked for the employer.)	NO  YES
<b>Sick Pay Paid by Third-Party Payers</b> Reportable by the payer, such as insurance companies and trusts, unless payer notifies the recipient's last employer within 15 days after payment. Reporting is the responsibility of the last employer if timely notified by the payer. Refer to Information Sheet: Third-Party Sick Pay (DE 231R).	YES	YES, but not subject to PIT withholding unless employee requests withholding by filing form DE 45 with the third-party payer.

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